INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants' representative Kirk Williams and Examiner Behrang Badii discussed the application on June 19, 2009, as stated hereinafter. Applicants' pointed out that the term "accounting data" was used in the context "network accounting data" (not accounting data used by an accountant). Applicants agreed to clarify, such as by amending the claims to recite "network accounting data collection mechanisms." Additionally, Applicants pointed out that access control lists are used by routers and bridges to control the flow of packet traffic in routers and bridges, and Applicants agreed to amend the claims to clarify such. Applicants pointed out that means for identifying and updating as recited in previously pending claims 21 and 22 actually is based on the matching of the particular item with the access control list entries to identify the particular network accounting data collection mechanism. Applicants and Examiner Badii agreed to withdraw the restriction requirement between the claim sets having independent claims 1, 21, and 25; and Applicants agreed to adjust the claim language of independent claims 21 and 25 to more closely follow that of independent claim 1. Finally, Applicants agreed to include the limitations of the lookup mechanism including an associative memory and adjunct memory lookup operation in each of the independent claims given the definition of an "associative memory" in the specification. Examiner Badii indicated that such changes overcome the outstanding prior art rejections, and should be allowable; however, additional searching and consideration would be required.

Applicants greatly appreciate Examiner Badii's consideration, professionalism, and suggestions for moving the prosecution of this case forward towards issuance.

Applicants believe that this paper fulfills the requirements of 37 CFR 1.133 and MPEP § 713.04. No exhibit was shown, and no demonstration was conducted.